



Department of Justice

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**WESTERN KENTUCKY MEN PLEAD GUILTY IN FEDERAL COURT
ON METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY CHARGES**

- Unbeknownst to Defendants, Police Purchased 341 grams of Crystal Meth from them*
- Street Value of drugs was over \$34,000*

LOUISVILLE, KY - Danny Wayne Webb, age 42, of Draffenville, Kentucky and Kerry Lee Wigginton, age 38, of Princeton, Kentucky, pled guilty to conspiring with each other and other persons to knowingly and intentionally possess with intent to distribute methamphetamine and aiding and abetting each other in the distribution of more than 5 grams of methamphetamine, U.S. Attorney David L. Huber of the Western District of Kentucky announced today. In addition, Webb also pled guilty to possessing firearms in furtherance of his drug trafficking.

Webb and Wigginton admitted that between February 7th and April 24th, 2006 they conspired with each other and a co-defendant to distribute methamphetamine in the Western District of Kentucky. Specifically, Webb and Wigginton admitted that Webb would obtain methamphetamine from Wigginton and that Wigginton then introduced Webb to his source of supply for the methamphetamine. Wigginton and Webb admitted that during the course of the conspiracy, Wigginton brokered four to six methamphetamine transactions between Webb and his source of supply. Normally each transaction was for one to two ounces (28 to 56 grams) of methamphetamine. However, for one or two transactions, the amount of methamphetamine was larger than two ounces.

Unbeknownst to the men, Kentucky State Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration conducted five controlled purchases of methamphetamine totaling 341 grams during the course of the conspiracy charged in the Indictment. Webb and Wigginton admitted that the last purchase was for 8 ounces of methamphetamine for \$12,500. The total methamphetamine recovered during the course of the conspiracy has a street value of over \$34,000.

In addition to the above facts constituting the basis for the conspiracy and aiding and abetting counts charged in the Indictment, Webb also admitted that on or about October 1, 2005, he possessed with intent to distribute methamphetamine in Marshall County, Kentucky and possessed a firearm in furtherance of that drug trafficking crime.

Specifically, on October 1, 2005, Marshall County Sheriff's detectives executed a search warrant at Webb's home and recovered small amounts of methamphetamine, digital scales, drug paraphernalia, a Marlin .22 caliber rifle, a Mossberg .12 gauge pump shotgun and a 9mm Beretta handgun. Webb admitted that he possessed a firearm in furtherance of his meth trafficking namely that he possessed the guns to protect his drugs and money.

Webb also admitted that he distributed methamphetamine on January 26, 2006 in Marshall County. On that date, Marshall County Sheriff's detectives recovered approximately 41 gross grams of methamphetamine from Webb with a street value of over \$4,000. In addition, Webb admitted that on February 7, 2006 he distributed methamphetamine in Marshall County. Approximately 2 grams of methamphetamine with a street value of \$200 was recovered on that date. Further, Webb admitted that on February 24, 2006, he and co-defendant Wigginton distributed methamphetamine in Marshall County, Kentucky. Approximately 14 grams of methamphetamine with a street value of \$1400 was recovered by law enforcement on that date.

Webb also admitted that on March 13, 2006, he distributed five grams or more of pure

methamphetamine and on April 12, 2006, he distributed fifty grams or more of a mixture of methamphetamine with both events occurring in Marshall County, Kentucky. Approximately 26 grams of methamphetamine with a street value of \$2600 was recovered on March 13, 2006 and approximately 64 grams of methamphetamine with a street value of \$6400 was recovered on April 12, 2006.

In addition, Webb admitted that on April 24, 2006, he, Wigginton and a co-defendant possessed with intent to distribute 5 grams or more of pure methamphetamine in Trigg County, Kentucky. On that date, 222 grams of methamphetamine with a street value of over \$22,000 was recovered by law enforcement.

The maximum potential penalties for the conspiracy charge are forty years imprisonment, a \$2,000,000 fine, and supervised release for a period of any number of years up to life; and the minimum potential penalties are five years imprisonment, and supervised release for a period of not less than four years. In addition, Webb faces a potential penalty of not less than five years nor more than life for possessing a firearm in furtherance of his drug trafficking, which according to federal law must be served consecutively to the sentence of imprisonment received on the drug charges.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michele Thielhorn, and it was investigated by the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Kentucky State Police, and the Marshall County Sheriff's Department.

The pleas were entered before Thomas B. Russell, Judge, United States District Court, Paducah, Kentucky.

Webb and Wigginton are scheduled to be sentenced before Judge Russell on October 23, 2007, at 11:45 a.m., in Paducah, Kentucky. The remaining co-defendant Shannon Hargrove is scheduled for trial on September 5, 2007 at 8:30 a.m.

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